

23. Santa Susana Mountains/Simi Hills : B,C, D, F			
Criteria Letter	Criteria Description	Criteria Met	Reason SEA meets Criteria
A	The habitat of core populations of endangered or threatened plant or animal species.	No	Although the proposed SEA does contain rare plant populations, it does not contain habitat of known core populations of listed species and therefore, does not meet this criterion.
B	On a regional basis, biotic communities, vegetative associations, and habitat of plant or animal species that are either unique or are restricted in distribution.	Yes	The proposed SEA contains habitat of the extremely rare Santa Susan tarplant. In addition, several plant communities within the proposed SEA are CDFG highest inventory priority communities due to their restricted distribution in the Southern California region. These communities include: coastal sage scrub, alluvial scrub, valley oak woodland, valley oak savannah, mainland cherry woodland, native grassland, southern willow scrub, and cottonwood-willow riparian forest.
C	Within Los Angeles County, biotic communities, vegetative associations, and habitat of plant or animal species that are either unique or are restricted in distribution.	Yes	All of the plant communities and habitats mentioned above as being restricted in distribution on a regional basis are further restricted in distribution within Los Angeles County.
D	Habitat that at some point in the life cycle of a species or group of species, serves as concentrated breeding, feeding, resting, migrating grounds and is limited in availability either regionally or in Los Angeles County.	Yes	The open space of the proposed SEA allows for connectivity between the Santa Monica Mountains and the San Gabriel Mountains. Due to the development within the vicinity, this is an important corridor for gene flow and species movement.
E	Biotic resources that are of scientific interest because they are either an extreme in physical/geographical limitations, or represent unusual variation in a population or community.	No	The proposed SEA does not contain biotic resources that are clearly an extreme in physical/geographical limitations, or represent unusual variation in a population or community and therefore does not meet this criterion.
F	Areas that would provide for the preservation of relatively undisturbed examples of the original natural biotic communities in Los Angeles County.	Yes	The relatively undisturbed nature and large size of the plant communities within the Santa Susana Mountains and Simi Hills provides many undisturbed examples of native, natural communities within Los Angeles County.